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gives wider scope to his work than Mr. Verrill. He devotes his chapters chiefly to the separate countries of South America, but precedes this major portion of the volume with some general observations and ends it with some consideration of present social and economic conditions. He writes sympathetically and from actual experience; but he does not hesitate to point out some just criticisms of his whilom hosts, usually uttered by themselves. He seems to generalize too readily and not all his characterizations can be accepted without being carefully checked with authoritative sources. Yet his volume will be useful for a general study of South America, possibly supplementing the better-known books of Bryce and Ross.

Mr. Verrill, in this revised edition of his earlier book, is wholly commercial, and his book thus has its field clearly defined. Yet it will have some use for the historical student. The latter will find the "Facts and figures" of part 3 convenient for reference, in lieu of better authorities. He would have more confidence in them had the author indicated the sources of his information.

Both volumes touch upon the effects of the war. Mr. Cooper devotes a chapter to exposing the workings of German intrigue in Latin America, and often mentions prospective conditions following the world conflict. Mr. Verrill shows the changes in exports and imports during the war itself, but gives little encouragement for a continuance of our commercial advantage, now that war-time restrictions are removed. From his pages one gathers the impression that our merchants are not yet using in any great measure such improved methods as we have been led to expect.

*Mexico.* From Cortes to Carranza. By Louise S. Hasbrouck. (New York: D. Appleton and company, 1918. 330 p. \$1.50 net)

*Mexico under Carranza.* A lawyer's indictment of the crowning infamy of four hundred years of misrule. By Thomas Edward Gibbon. (New York: Doubleday, Page and company, 1919. 270 p. \$1.50)

*Mexico today and tomorrow.* By E. D. Trowbridge. (New York: Macmillan company, 1919. 282 p. \$2.00)

These three volumes, figuring among the recent popular books on Mexico, are of varying merit. Miss Hasbrouck starts out with the worthy purpose of making the history of Mexico attractive for children. She succeeds fairly well albeit with some regrettable perversion of historical facts and some typographical errors and misspellings. About half of her volume, as might be anticipated, is concerned with the Aztecs and the career of Cortes. There is a chapter devoted to the life of Aztec children and another in which a child is supposed to tell the story of Mexico's struggle for independence from the Spanish rule.

Modern events are not neglected. The chapter on "Diaz the despot" is more sympathetic than its title implies. The author is inclined to regard the professions of the recent revolutionists as *faits accomplis*, especially in Yucatan, but this may represent a sympathetic attempt to develop the personalities of recent leaders.

Mr. Trowbridge has given us a wonderful book of unusual interest. About a third of the volume treats of events and conditions preceding Diaz. This permits a comparatively full treatment of the situation since 1910. The author writes from a full personal knowledge of the country and with evident sympathy for recent changes, but he describes them without undue partiality. It is refreshing to note that his business experience does not lead him to favor military intervention by the United States and that he can discuss the financial expedients of Carranza without displaying undue warmth. His description of social and economic conditions is especially good. One who gives the volume careful perusal cannot fail to gain a clearer idea of existing Mexican problems.

In Mr. Gibbon's volume we encounter the familiar indictment of the enraged capitalist. The author does not attempt to be fair; he charges against Carranza all the evils that now afflict Mexico, because under a semi-industrial régime, such as Mexico has entered during the last generation, revolutionary outbreaks have become so much more disastrous than formerly. He rightly suggests that racial conditions account for much of Mexico's woe, but his statement of the relative proportions of the constituent elements is misleading, as is also his indiscriminate condemnation of the "Latinized" element. Naturally he finds nothing commendable either in the sentiments or policy of our own administration and looks for salvation, avowedly for the *peons*, only through intervention, such as England has made in Egypt. If one adds that the author is an attorney from Los Angeles, he has sufficiently indicated the *odor* that accompanies the book.

*A short history of Japan.* By Ernest Wilson Clement. (Chicago: University of Chicago press, 1916. 190 p. \$1.00)

*Modern Japan.* Social, industrial, political. By Amos S. Hershey and Susanne W. Hershey. (Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill company, 1919. 382 p. \$1.50)

*Japan and world peace.* By K. K. Kawakami. (New York: Macmillan company, 1919. 196 p. \$1.50)

*The mastery of the far east.* The story of Korea's transformation and Japan's rise to supremacy in the orient. By Arthur Judson Brown. (New York: Scribner's, 1919. 671 p. \$6.00)

The title of Mr. Clement's *Short history of Japan* is accurately chosen. It would be difficult to write a more compact summary. Fifteen hun-